

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAGU 00462 312030Z

60

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 SY-04 USSS-00 SCCT-01 /066 W

----- 116800

R 311955Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6150

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

USCINCSO

CONFIDENTIAL MANAGUA 0462

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, NU

SUBJECT: CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP SHAKEN PREDICTED

1. THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN TOLD BY PARTY SOURCES THAT CONSERVATIVE PARTY PRESIDENT EDMUNDO PAGUAGA IRIAS, WHO LOST DECISIVELY TO ANASTASIO SOMOZA IN LAST YEAR'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, MAY BE SHORTLY REPLACED AS PART OF THE FALL-OUT FROM THE FSLN TERRORIST ATTACK FOUR WEEKS AGO. PAGUAGA'S SUCCESSOR WILL BE EDUARDO CHAMORRO CORONEL, CONSERVATIVE DEPUTY, PROMINENT ARCHITECT, AND RISING STAR OF THE PARTY, IF THE BEHIND THE SCENES MACHINATIONS OF THE PARTY'S MOST INFLUENTIAL LEADERS DO NOT FAIL. THESE LEADERS--SUGAR MAGNATE ALFREDO PELLAS AND PARTY VICE-PRESIDENT ALBERTO CHAMORRO (EDUARDO CHAMORRO'S FIRST AND SECOND COUSIN RESPECTIVELY)--CONFERRED AT LENGTH WITH EDUARDO CHAMORRO HERE AND IN MIAMI DURING THE PAST WEEK TO HAMMER OUT A PERSONAL UNDERSTANDING ON FUTURE PARTY POLICIES AND ARE NOW MAKING PLANS TO UNSEAT PAGUAGA.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANAGU 00462 312030Z

2. EDUARDO CHAMORRO TOLD POLOFF ON JANUARY 29 THAT PELLAS AND ALBERTO CHAMORRO (WHO TOGETHER ENGINEERED THE PARTY COUP AGAINST FERNANDO AGUERO IN FEBRUARY 1973 WHICH BROUGHT PAGUAGA TO POWER) HAD DECIDED TO TAKE A CALCULATED RISK ON THEIR YOUNGER KINSMAN. PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED DIFFERENCES IN POLITICAL STYLE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC POLICY HAD SHRIVELED AS A RESULT OF THE DANGERS REVEALED BY THE LOS ROBLES INCIDENT. HE COMMENTED THAT ALBERTO CHAMORRO AND PELLAS PROBABLY FEARED THAT OPPOSITION LEADERSHIP WOULD SHIFT DEFINITIVELY TO THE NEWLY FORMED UNION OF DEMOCRATIC LIBERATION (UDEL) WHICH HAS COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION, OR TO THE SANDINISTAS THEMSELVES, IF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY WAS NOT REBUILT QUICKLY. CHAMORRO ADDED THAT AWARENESS THAT THE CHANGE HAD TO BE EFFECTED WITH SOME URGENCY CAME AS A RESULT OF THE PATHETIC SPECTACLE TWO WEEKS AGO OF PAGUAGA ATTEMPTING TO DIRECT THE PARTY IN FRAMING A POSITION PAPER ON THE TERRORIST INCIDENT. REMAINING TO BE WORKED OUT, HOWEVER, IS PRECISELY HOW TO DISPLACE PAGUAGA WITHOUT CAUSING POLITICAL BLOODSHED.

3. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT PELLAS, USUALLY THE MOST CAUTIOUS OF SOULS, IS UNLIKELY TO BE DENIED HIS WILL IN AN OPERATION DESIGNED TO GIVE THE PARTY A MORE MILITANT ORIENTATION. WE HAVE THOUGHT FOR SOME TIME THAT THE CONSERVATIVES WOULD BE UNABLE TO MOUNT A CHALLENGE TO SOMOZA WITHOUT SOME DRASIC CHANGES IN LEADERSHIP. AS ONE OF THE FEW "PAGUAGISTAS" WHO HAVE MANAGED TO MAINTAIN THE PURITY OF THEIR ANTI-GOVERNMENT STANCE, THE PHYSICALLY ATTRACTIVE AND COOLLY INTELLIGENT EDUARDO CHAMORRO IS PROBABLY THE ONLY PERSONALITY WHO CAN OFFER THAT CHANGE. (FYI: ALBERTO CHAMORRO TOLD SOMOZA JAN. 29 THAT EDUARDO HAD BEEN CHOSEN TO REPLACE PAGUAGA, BUT SUGGESTED A SOMEWHAT LONGER GESTATION PERIOD FOR THE CHANGE THAN OUTLINED ABOVE.)
SHELTON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANAGU00462
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750037-0387
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975013/aaaaacccn.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 SEP 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP SHAKEUP PREDICTED
TAGS: PINT, NU, (PAGUAGA IRIAS, EDMUNDO), (CHAMORRO CORONEL, EDUARDO), (PELLAS, ALFREDO), (CHAMORRO, ALBERTO), (CHAMORRO, EDUARDO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006